TRANSMITTAL FORM  (to be used for all correspondence after initial  Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Filing Date First Named Inventor	10/725,051  December 1, 2003  Clarence Thibeau  3637
Fee Transmittal Form  Fee Attached  Amendment/Reply  After Final  Affidavits/declaration(s)  Extension of Time Request  Express Abandonment Request  Information Disclosure Statement  Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application  Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	Drawing(s)  Licensing-related Papers  Petition  Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Addre  Terminal Disclaimer  Request for Refund  CD, Number of CD(s)  Remarks  10 references	After Allowance communication to Group Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Proprietary Information Status Letter X Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below): Return postcard
Firm James F. Porce Findividual name Signature Date  Signature  CE Thereby certify that this correspondence is be	elope addressed to: Commissioner for Pate	L.P.A.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the Individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet of

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/725,051
Filing Date	December 1, 2003
First Named Inventor	Clarence Thibeau
Group Art Unit	3637
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	03214

			U.S. PATENT DOCU	JMENTS	
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	No.	NumberKind Code (if known)	MIMI-DD-1111		
		US- 3,236,932 —	02-22-1966	Grigas et al.	
		US- 4,047,349	09-13-1977	Aguilar, Jr.	
		US- 4,936,021 /	06-26-1990	Frenette et al.	
		US- 5,335,423 /	08-09-1994	McLaughlin	
		US- 5,768,844 /	06-23-1998	Grace, Sr. et al.	
		US- 6,223,492 /	05-01-2001	Barnhart, Jr. et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Т
lnitials		Country Code-Number-Kind Code (if known)				-
		CA 2,299,872	09-02-2000	Lubker et al.		
		CA 2,351,266	12-30-2001	Nichiha Co., Ltd.		
		CA 2,369,220	07-24-2002	Nichiha Co., Ltd.		
		CA 2,359,243	04-19-2002	Nichiha Co., Ltd.		
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Examiner	****	Date	
Signature		Considered	

(Information Disclosure Statement - FORM 1449A/PTO (PTO/SB/08A)

page 3 of 4)

Practitioner's Docket No		PATENT
IN THE UNITED STATE	S PATENT	AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Patent application		•
of		,
	Inventor(s)	
for	Title of invent	ion
the specification of which is being tr	ansmitted he	erewith
,	OR	·
n re application of: Clarence Thi	beau	
Application No.: 010 / 725,051	Group No.: Examiner:	3637
Assistant Commissioner for Patent Vashington, D.C. 20231	s	•
INFORMATION	DISCLOSU	JRE STATEMENT
•		
(When using Express Mail, ti	DER 37 C.F.R he Express Mall all certification I	. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10* label number is mandatory; s optional.)
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for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231	rvice in an enve	elope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner
37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a) ( with sufficient postage as first class mail.	☐ as "Exp	37 C.F.R. § 1.10* press Mail Post Office to Addressee"
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transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and 1	rademark Office	lara a. Myers
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	Barbara	A. Myers

Barbara A. Myers

(type or print name of person certifying)

(Information Disclosure Statement [6-1]—page 1 of \_\_\_\_\_)

### Section 1. Preliminary statements

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

"An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed by the applicant within NOTE: any one of the following time periods: (1) Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d); (2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; (3) Before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits; or (4) Before the mailing date of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114." 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). NOTE: "Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section." 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a). "Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are: each inventor named in the application; (2) each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and (3) every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application." 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c). NOTE: The "duty as described in § 1.56 will be met so long as the information in question was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98 before issuance of the patent." Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13 -25 at 17. WARNING: "No information disclosure statement may be filed in a provisional application." 37 C.F.R. § 1.51(d). List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement: (check sections forming a part of this statement: discard unused sections

and number pages consecutively)

1.	X	Preliminary Statements
2.	X	FORMS PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly FORM PTO-1449)
3.		Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications
4.		Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted
5.		Cumulative Patents or Publications
6.		Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement
7.		Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items
		7A.   EPO Search Report
		7B.   English Language Version of EPO Search Report
8.		Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents
9.		Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items (Optional)
10.		Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement
		(complete the following, if appropriate)
ctic	ons	, respectively, have been continued on ADDED PAGE(S).
ΙΟΤΙ	E: "C No	once the minimum requirements are met, the examiner has an obligation to consider the information." otice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 37).
		(Information Disclosure Statement [6-1]—page Fof)

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## Section 6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) requires that any information disclosure statement filed under § 1.97 shall include: "A legible copy of:

- (i) Each U.S. patent application publication and U.S. and foreign patent;
- (ii) Each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed;
- (iii) For each cited pending U.S. application, the application specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application, or that portion of the application which caused it to be listed including any claims directed to that portion. ."

Legible copies of all items listed in Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449) accompany this information statement.

(complete the following, if applicable)
 Exception(s) to above:
 ☐ Items in prior application, from which an earlier filing date is claimed for this application, as identified in Section 4.
 ☐ Cumulative patents or publications identified in Section 5.

(Information Disclosure Statement—Section 6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying

This Statement [6-1]—page \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ )

# Section 10. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

The perso	<i>"</i> 11	taking true statement is
		(check each applicable item)
(a)		the inventor(s) who signs below
	•	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR
		(type name of inventor who is signing)
(b)		an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c))
		SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR
		(type name of inventor who is signing)
(c)	<b>E</b>	the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information:
		(check each applicable item)
<b>%</b> .		Supplied by the inventor(s).
		supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application. (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c))
		in the practitioner's file.
Reg. No.:	29.	SENATURE OF PRACTITIONER 425
		James F. Porcello, Jr.  (type or print name of practitioner)
Sustomer N		P.O. Box 916
		Toledo, Ohio 43697-0916

(Information Disclosure Statement—Section 10. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement [6-1]—page \_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_)